

**Minutes from a meeting of the Concordia Council on Student Life held on Friday, 18 February 1994 at 12:30 p.m. on the Loyola Campus in room AD-131.**

**Present:** Dr. D.L. Boisvert, Chair; Ms. J. Chegrinec, secretary; Mr. B. Counihan; Mr. H. Zarins; Dr. S.M. Graub; Ms. A. Kerby; Ms. N. Torbit; Mr. V. Pavlicik; Ms. C. Fortier; Dr. B. Litner; Ms. L. Grimes; Mr. P. Dalton; Mr. A. Ghaemi; Ms. J. Davies; Ms. K. Bolh; Mr. D. Leibu; Mr. K. Lowther.

**Absent:** Mr. R. Côté; Ms. J. Brown; Mr. A. Switzer.

1. **Approval of Agenda:** The Chair explained that "Director's Reports" had been moved up to item 5 on the agenda to allow more time for reports and discussion. Mr. Counihan requested that Teaching Excellence Award be added to the agenda as item 4 e). On a motion by Ms. Fortier, seconded by Ms. Torbit, the agenda, as amended, was approved.
2. **Remarks from the Chair:** 1. Dr. Boisvert extended congratulations to CUSA for the successful launching of Café Mezz and of the new Reggie's.  
2. As the result of a discussion at the last meeting, the Associate Vice-Rector, Services (Student Life) and Directors will be holding two informal information sessions for students. On 6 March, Dr. Boisvert, Mr. Counihan, Dr. Graub, and Mr. Zarins will be available between 11:00 - 1:00 on the SGW campus, and on 6 April, Dr. Boisvert, Ms. Kerby, Mr. Côté and Ms. Torbit will be at the Loyola campus. Publicity for these sessions is being coordinated by Ms. Kerby and all interested students are urged to attend.  
3. An official announcement was made by the Chair on the re-appointment of Dr. S.M. Graub as Director of Counselling and Development. Council was informed that Dr. Graub received unanimous support for the five-year renewal of her contract, and congratulations were extended.
3. **Approval of the minutes of 21 January:** Mr. Ghaemi informed Council that Ms. Grimes and Ms. Brown had not been appointed to the CCSL Awards Committee and he would forward the names of the individuals to Ms. Chegrinec. On a motion by Mr. Zarins, seconded by Ms. Grimes, the minutes were approved as amended.
4. **Business Arising from the Minutes:**
  - a) **Meeting with Dr. Barlow** - Since Dr. Barlow is out of the country at the present time, the Chair informed Council that he has agreed to attend the March meeting of CCSL to address all items raised concerning his reporting areas.
  - b) **Interest fees for International Students:** Ms. Fortier referred Council to the

minutes of the Planning and Resources Committee on the status of this issue.

**c) Report on Budget Adjustments:** The Chair informed Council of minor adjustments which had been made to the budget which may result in a small over-expenditure in the three areas concerned: Financial Aid & Awards - \$9,000 to cover the costs of hiring extra support staff during peak periods to cut down the waiting time; Dean of Students - \$1,400 adjustment made to the budget for unexpected expenses; Advocacy & Support Services - \$4,200 to cover a maternity leave replacement. These adjustments will not affect the projected balanced budget.

**d) Response to Task Force on Senate Reform:** The document was distributed and a motion made by Mr. Dalton, and seconded by Mr. Leibu, that CCSL endorse the document and forward it to Senate as Council's official response.

Council commended Mr. Dalton and Mr. Leibu on the quality of the response. Mr. Dalton, Mr. Leibu, Dr. Boisvert, and Ms. Kerby offered comments during the initial discussion which resulted in Ms. Kerby introducing a motion for an amendment, that CCSL remove the response to the recommendations proposed on remodeling the Senate Chamber. This was seconded by Mr. Ghaemi. Discussion on the proposed amendment centered on whether or not the remodeling of the Senate chambers should be a University priority. Taking part in the discussion were Mr. Lowther, Ms. Grimes, Mr. Counihan, Ms. Kerby, and Dr. Litner. Mr. Lowther stated that on behalf of the Graduate Student Association he would have to support the original wording of the document since the GSA has officially stated their position on not endorsing any renovation to the chambers. It was explained that the argument for remodeling the Senate Chambers is to foster collegiality. As pointed out by the authors of the response, collegiality is an attitude and not something that can be manufactured by a restructuring of facilities. Ms. Grimes recommended a compromise, whereby the statement is modified to reflect Council's commitment to making Senate Chambers accessible to the disabled. Ms. Kerby agreed that a modification acknowledging accessibility would be acceptable and withdrew her amendment, seconded by Mr. Ghaemi.

A vote was taken on the original motion, including the agreed modification. For - 14, against - 1, abstention 0. Mr. Dalton and Mr. Leibu will make the change and forward the document to Mr. John Noonan, Secretary of Senate.

Mr. Lowther went on record as having to vote against the change since the Graduate Students' Association has concerns that contradict the response being sent by Council. He will table the GSA response at the next meeting of Council.

**e) Teaching Excellence Award** - The document "Teaching Excellence Award"

was tabled for consideration/discussion. Mr. Lowther, Mr. Counihan, Dr. Litner, Ms. Kerby, and Mr. Pavlicik participated in the discussion. The new award on teaching excellence will be presented at the awards reception to be held 11 April in the SGW Faculty Club. The deadline for nominations will be 24 March with extended publicity in all University papers and notices sent to student organizations. The criteria used to select recipients is based on the CAUT recommendations. Council has approved the award; what is to be decided is the number of awards to be distributed. On a motion by Mr. Counihan, seconded by Dr. Litner, it was proposed that a maximum of six (6) awards to be distributed for excellence in teaching. An brief open discussion followed and on a vote of 14 yeas; 0 nays and 1 abstention, the motion was carried.

**f) Further Business:** In response to Mr. Leibu's question on how student input into the hours of operation of Computing Services and Audio Visual could be realized, the Chair commented that the Academic Services Committee was the most viable forum at this time. Undergraduate students have two (2) representatives on the committee and graduate students have one (1) representative.

5. **Reports from Directors: Recreation & Athletics** - Mr. Zarins informed Council of the issues in the department.

- Programmes winding up for 1993-1994 and the Athletic Awards Banquet will be held 7 April;
- The Recreation & Athletics complex is close to a final report. Representatives have met with senior administration and student organizations. CCSL will be kept updated on events as they transpire.

**Counselling & Development** - Dr. Graub reported that February had proven to be a difficult month in the department with many cases of students being stressed and suffering. The reasons varied among G.P.A.s, job prospects, graduate school applications, and relationship problems, as well as other concerns. Other items of interest:

- The Careers' Library is making a concerted effort to increase its library resources for graduate students;
- CAPS - details are being finalized to implement a team for student placement assistants;
- Along with Alumni, a Career Strategy Day will be held 5 April.

**Health Services** - Ms. Torbit would like some input from students on what types of issue they would like the Directors to comment upon. Issues concerning the department include:

- The department is conducting a study to determine why people use Health Services as opposed to community services;
- Ms. Torbit reported that, after almost twenty years, the Health Fair had, once again, proven to be a huge success. Concordia was the first university in Canada to introduce this concept and this year over 4,000 people attended over the two-day period. Evaluations were done to determine what people learned from attending and, if by attending, they foresee that there might be a change in their behaviour. Congratulations were expressed by Council to Ms. Torbit.

Ms. Grimes responded that CUSA leaders want to hear suggestions on how they can better help their constituents by advising them on job opportunities, etc., and introduce a more interactive involvement with the various Student Services' departments.

Mr. Ghaemi asked how sponsors are chosen for the Health Fair. Ms. Torbit informed him that it is based on usefulness, for example drug companies do provide funding, and a company that has healthy products would be considered. Mr. Lowther followed up on the hepatitis B serum and was told that Health Services was providing the shots at cost.

**Financial Aid & Awards** - Mr. Côté was unable to attend as he was in Québec City.

**Advocacy & Support Services** - Ms. Kerby reported on the student advocates and legal information, reminding CCSL that the services does exist and is currently under heavy demand. As an information item, the Civil Code has recently been changed and has wide-ranging effects for tenants, etc.

**Dean of Students** - Mr. Counihan reported that the last issue of The Bridge has been distributed with a feature piece on CARL. A memorandum has been sent to the student organizations asking for volunteers to test the new telephone registration system prior to its start-up on 7 April.

The Student Project Committee has been busy in January and February disbursing another \$5,000. Ms. Grimes commented on the positive start-up of the Concordia Safety Patrol and how well it has been implemented and received. Mr. Counihan especially thanked Mr. Bujold, Director of Security, Ms. Spilhouse, Sexual Harassment Officer and Ms. Lacroix, Coordinator, Women's Centre, for their assistance.

Ms. Bohl (introduced by the Chair, and welcomed as the latest undergraduate representative on CCSL), asked the Dean of Students about the constraints of the programme. As of now, the Safety Patrol operates between University buildings at the Loyola campus and extends to the bus stop and the train

station but does not extend to surrounding streets as yet.

6. Report from Planning and Resources Committee: Item #2 (A Meeting with Mr. L. Zack, Assistant Director, Public Relations) - Council was referred to the 11 February memo from Mr. Zack and advised that a follow-up will be conducted with Information Services. The Chair expressed concern that there appeared to be little happening with respect to items #4 (Student Representation) and #5 (Course & Teacher Evaluation). Mr. Leibu was informed that Dr. Smith had not, as yet, sent in any information as requested. Mr. Lowther informed CCSL that Commerce and Administration will be making their teacher evaluations public.
7. Student Life Issues: Mr. Dalton, Mr. Ghaemi, Ms. Grimes, Mr. Lowther, Ms. Bohl, Mr. Leibu, Ms. Kerby, Mr. Pavlicik, Mr. Counihan, and Dr. Boisvert participated in discussion of the following issues:
  - the bathroom on the 6th floor of the McConnell building still remains locked, causing the students to begin a petition to have it accessible;
  - CUSA feels strongly that the non-negotiable stance of the University in regards to smoking has to be addressed;
  - the bus stop facility at Loyola which was begun by students in a Political Science course last year - this led to a discussion on how good ideas generated in this course can be continued after the course is finished. This issue could be raised with Dr. Barlow at the 18 March meeting of CCSL;
  - the shuttle bus schedule - why do buses not run on weekends and in the evenings during exam period - (to be addressed by I.M. Barlow);
  - problems relating to buildings on the Loyola Campus were raised;
- Dr. Boisvert requested that all physical environment questions be listed and sent to Ms. Chegrinec prior to the 18 March meeting so all of them can be addressed by Dr. Barlow.
- Ms. Grimes reiterated her concerns regarding the escalators in the Hall Building. A discussion ensued on the smoking policy of the University and what steps may be utilized by the students to open up a dialogue with senior administration on this issue.
8. New Business: None
9. Next Meeting: The next meeting of CCSL will be held, Friday, 18 March 1994, 12:30 p.m., in the Hall Building, room H-771.
10. Termination of Meeting: On a motion by Ms. Kerby, seconded by Mr. Zarins, the meeting was terminated.